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- c) identifying that the agent modulates a Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon influenced cellular process or response when the expression of the one or more Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon stimulated genes in the cell sample in the presence of the agent differs from the expression of the one or more Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon stimulated genes in the absence of the agent.

3. A method for identifying an agent which modulates a Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon influenced cellular process or response, the method comprising:

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- a) providing a sample of cells;
- b) determining the level of expression in the sample of cells of one or more Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon stimulated genes selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NOS. 1-31 in the presence and absence of a selected agent; and
- c) identifying that the agent modulates a Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon influenced cellular process or response when the expression of the one or more Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon stimulated genes in the cell sample in the presence of the agent differs from the expression of the one or more Tissue Necrosis Factor and Interferon stimulated genes in the absence of the agent.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. No new matter is presented by virtue of these amendments. Support for the within amendments can be found throughout the specification and in the original claims of the application.

Applicant submits that these amendments may be properly entered at this time, i.e., after final rejection pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116, because the amendments do not raise any new issues or require a new search and they reduce issues for appeal. Indeed, it is believed that the within amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of the within amendments is earnestly solicited.